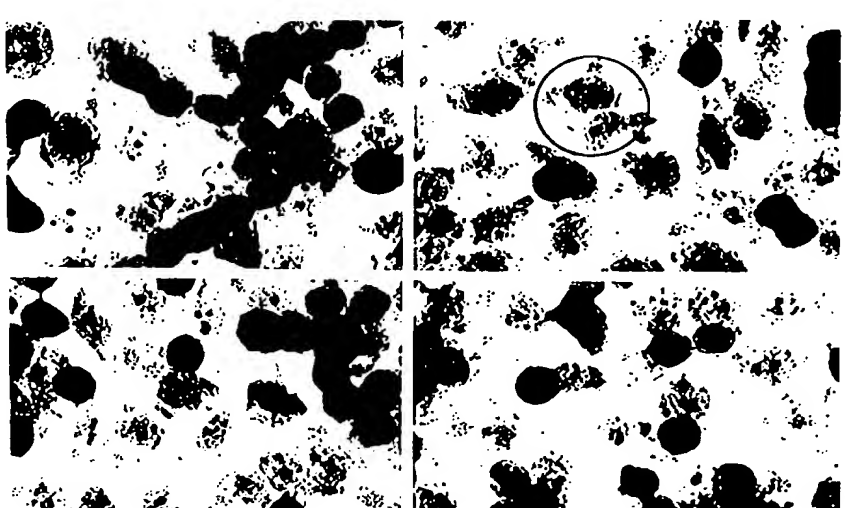


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<p>(54) Title: VACCINES CONTAINING RECOMBINANT PILIN AGAINST <i>NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE</i> OR <i>NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS</i></p>		
		
<p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>The <i>pilE</i> genes of each of <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> and <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> are cloned and their corresponding recombinant pilin proteins are expressed. In addition, a chimeric <i>pilE</i> gene is constructed in which the region of the <i>pilE</i> gene of <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> class I encoding the amino-terminal region of the pilin protein is replaced by the corresponding region of the <i>pilE</i> gene of <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>. The recombinant meningococcal chimeric class I pilin protein is expressed at higher levels than the pilin protein expressed by the full-length <i>pilE</i> gene of <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>. Furthermore, a chimeric <i>pilE</i> gene is constructed in which the region of the <i>pilE</i> gene of <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> class II encoding the carboxy-terminal region of the pilin protein is replaced by the corresponding region of the <i>pilE</i> gene of <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>. The recombinant pilin proteins are used in vaccines to protect against disease caused by <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> or <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>.</p>		

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